

E 757

.B89

ROOSEVELT

9



ROOSEVELT

57

1



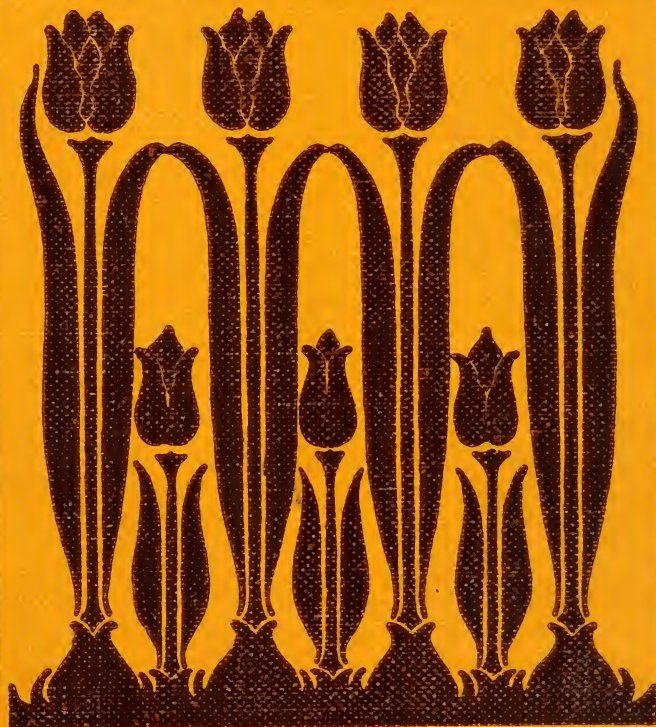
ROOSEVELT

Instructor Literature Series—No. 405C (Double Number)

E 757
.B89
Copy 1

ROOSEVELT

BY M. G. BRUMBAUGH



F. A. OWEN PUBLISHING CO.
DANSVILLE, N. Y.

The Story of
Theodore Roosevelt

By
MARTIN G. BRUMBAUGH, PH.D., LL.D.

Former Superintendent of Schools, Philadelphia;
Former Governor of Pennsylvania; Author,
"The Making of a Teacher," etc.



F. A. OWEN PUBLISHING COMPANY
DANSVILLE, N. Y.

E 757
.B 89

COPYRIGHT, 1922
F. A. OWEN PUBLISHING COMPANY
The Story of Roosevelt



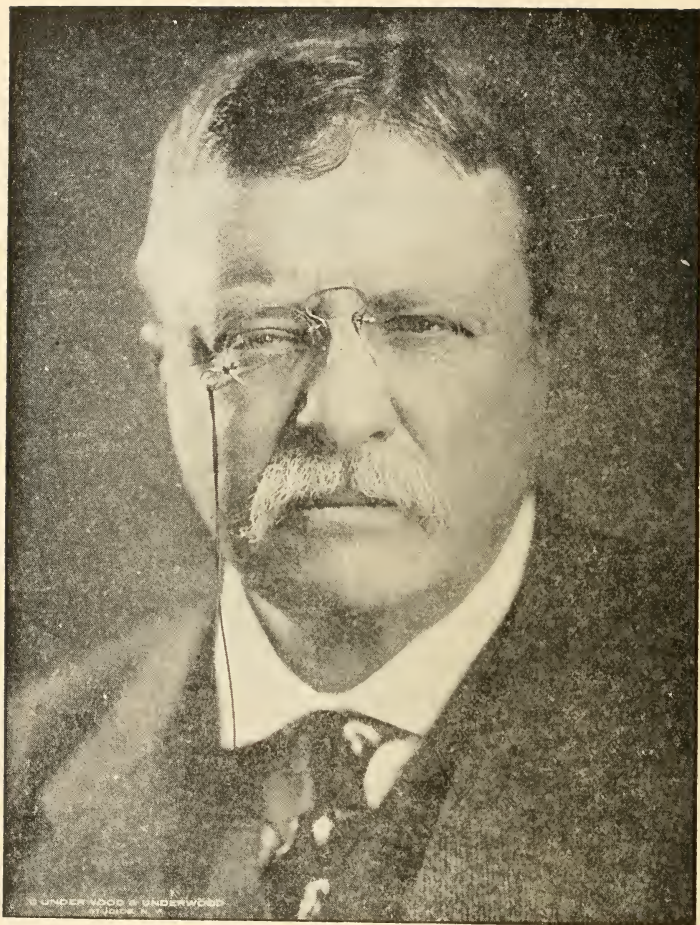
©1A698000

JAN 22 '23

no 1

THE ROOSEVELT CREED

- I believe in honesty, sincerity, and the square deal.
- I believe in making up one's mind what to do and doing it.
- I believe in fearing God and taking one's own part.
- I believe in hitting the line hard when you are right.
- I believe in speaking softly and carrying a big stick.
- I believe in hard work and honest sport.
- I believe in a sane mind in a sane body.
- I believe we have room for but one soul loyalty and that is a loyalty to the American people.



THEODORE ROOSEVELT

THE STORY OF ROOSEVELT

ANCESTRY AND BOYHOOD

When one thinks of the kind of man that Americans want an American to be one naturally thinks of Theodore Roosevelt. He was in so many ways an example of fine citizenship that he is held up to the youth of our land as a type of what they may well strive to be. And he won this place in the hearts of our people by hard work. He did not easily become a sturdy, active, strenuous leader of his fellows. His whole life was a struggle: first, a struggle to become physically fit, then a struggle to become mentally fit, and finally a struggle to become politically fit. Things did not come easily to young Roosevelt.

He was born in New York City, October 27, 1858. His mother, Martha Bulloch Roosevelt, belonged to an honored Southern family. Her people were of Scotch descent, with some traces of Huguenot and English blood in the family. Archibald Bulloch, his mother's great grandfather, was the first "President" of Georgia when that colony joined the others in opposing Great Britain. The Bulloch homestead at Roswell, near Atlanta, was on the line of Sherman's march to the sea and the soldiers carried away many of the books and much of the light furniture of their home. Years afterward, when Theodore Roosevelt was President, a soldier sent him one of these books—Gray's Poems, printed in Glasgow. To young Roosevelt his

mother's home was always a sacred spot and he was never tired of hearing stories of the life there.

His father, Theodore Roosevelt, also born in New York City, was a direct descendant of Klaes Martenszen Van Roosevelt, who was born in Holland and came to America about 1644. His father's mother was a Pennsylvanian. On his father's side he had Dutch,

Quaker and Irish forbears. The mingling of all these important lines of descent gave Roosevelt an all-round American ancestry. This may explain the fact that he was so well able to understand his fellow citizens and to mingle with them in an easy and friendly way. This fine family inheritance was, no doubt, of great service in giving young Roosevelt the moral chivalry, dignity, and



Theodore Roosevelt at 10 Years of Age
(Courtesy of Corinne Roosevelt Robinson and Charles Scribner's Sons.)

courtesy that he exhibited in public and private life.

He was a weak child physically, but his father did all that a far-seeing parent could to help the boy to a healthy, vigorous body. At nine years of age he suffered from asthma. His father built a porch gymnasium for him on the upper floor of their house on East Twentieth Street. When the boy was taken to this gymnasium his father said, "Theodore, you have the brains, but brains are of little use without the body;

you have to make your body, and it lies with you to make it. It's dull, hard work, but you can do it." And he did it. Daily he practiced with bars and rings and weights.

The family spent the summers in the country, and Theodore, a barefoot American boy, was genuinely happy with his cats, dogs, rabbits, a coon, and a pony named General Grant. Here also he played Indian and frequently stained his clothes as well as his face with poke-berry juice.

His weak body prevented him from attending public school. He was taught by tutors and in the private school of Professor McMullen. At the age of ten and again four years later he was taken to Europe, and on the second trip he was especially interested in the birds of Egypt and of Palestine. His specimens, thus early gathered, he later gave to the Smithsonian Institution. Upon his return to America at the age of fifteen he was taken in hand by Mr. Arthur Cutler to be prepared for entrance to college. At this time he also continued his studies in natural history and thus laid the foundation for a lifelong interest in wild life and a longing to see animals in their homes and haunts. It was this early love of nature that carried him in mature life to Africa and to South America.

The vacations of his later boyhood were spent in the woods of Maine, where he hunted, fished, trapped, paddled, rowed and gradually made himself physically fit. Once he was sent alone to Moosehead Lake in Maine. A stagecoach took him the last part of the journey. In the coach were two boys of about his own age, and as he says in his *Autobiography*, these boys "proceeded to make life miserable" for him. Theodore was not much hurt in the struggle that ensued but he was very much ashamed of the fact that he

could not defend himself. Then and there he decided to take lessons in self-defense.

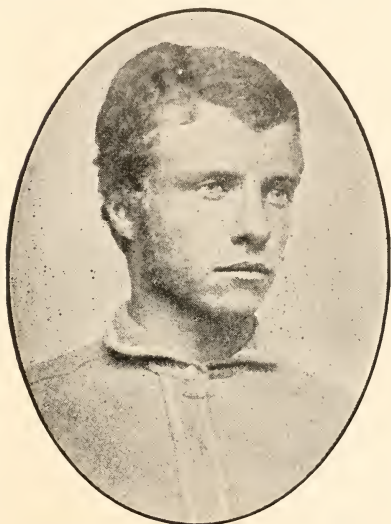
COLLEGE AND EARLY POLITICAL LIFE

He entered Harvard College in the fall of 1876. Becoming interested in the subject of the naval history of the War of 1812, he compiled notes which eventually became a two-volume book, published two years after his graduation. It was warmly commended by historians and other critics. In college he did not care for the formal compositions he was required to prepare, nor was he at all interested in public debate. He gave his time to his studies, to his health, and to the development of his social sense.

Engaging in many activities, Roosevelt easily found in his college life how to live in a large way with his fellow students. This was especially fortunate, because his weak body had kept him from that wide contact with others so essential to a rounded character. Here he learned not only the theories of social life but the method of living in a helpful way with his kind. While young Roosevelt was in college his father died, at the age of forty-six, a loss the son felt most keenly. Theodore Roosevelt, Senior, had impressed upon his son that one must work and make his own way in the world. He also stressed the fact that if one is to give himself to scientific study and not to the earning of large sums of money he must also decide not to spend money. This vital lesson of living within one's income was of great value to the young man. In a way, it decided his economic thinking and influenced all his public utterances.

When he graduated in 1880, twenty-second in his class, Roosevelt had not fully mapped out his future.

His early interests had been in the field of natural science, but he decided he did not want to spend his life as a professor. He considered the law, but did not like that profession. He did not believe in the justice of the maxim "Let the buyer beware." Both in law and in business he thought that the seller should not profit at the expense of the buyer, but that all bargains should be to the profit of both. He believed fully



Theodore Roosevelt as a Youth of 16,
at Oyster Bay

(Courtesy of Corinne Roosevelt Robinson and
Charles Scribner's Sons.)

in justice but not in legalism. He could not bring himself to the idea that it is right for a lawyer to take the side he knows to be in the wrong. He knew, too, that his father had left him financially independent. The young man finally decided to give his life to the service of the public rather than to the selfish purpose of increasing his own fortune.

In October of the year that he left Harvard, Roosevelt was married to Miss Alice Hathaway Lee, who belonged to a distinguished Boston family. They traveled abroad for a time and returned to reside in New York./

When Roosevelt decided that he would take an active part in the political life of his country, it was partly because he scorned the men who felt free to sit back and criticize the government. He scorned also

the mean-minded men who for selfish reasons set themselves up as political leaders. He decided it was one's duty to "pull his own weight in the boat" and not to be pulled by others. Some of his wealthy friends told him political life was low, that it was not to his social advantage to get mixed up with common folks. Roosevelt replied that common folks were really the governing class and that they were well worth knowing and helping. He decided to seek a seat in the New York State Assembly. In this he was aided by Joe Murray, a leader among the rough-and-tumble gangs of the East Side in New York. Murray was square, fearless and loyal. He nominated Roosevelt, against the wishes and efforts of the political bosses, and saw him elected in 1881, and twice re-elected.

Roosevelt has been criticized for making friends with Joe Murray and men of his sort, known in the cities as small-fry politicians. But he defended his friendship by declaring that no man is fit to do good work in our American democracy unless he is able to have a genuine fellow-feeling and sympathy with his compatriots, whatever their creed, origin or place in life. He fellowshiped with any man who was really American in spirit and denounced all those who were not. This spirit led him to regard Jacob Riis, who had once been a poor young immigrant from Denmark, as the best American he ever knew.

Roosevelt's Albany career was a constant fight for decency and honesty. In his capacity as chairman of the Committee on Cities he was anxious to secure the enactment of a law to provide better terminal facilities for a railroad company. His associates refused to vote the bill out of the committee. Roosevelt announced that he would report it. This caused a great

uproar. Evidently some of the committee wanted to receive money before voting on the bill. It was finally passed. The young man had put the bribe-taking crowd to flight. He had won his spurs as a legislator.

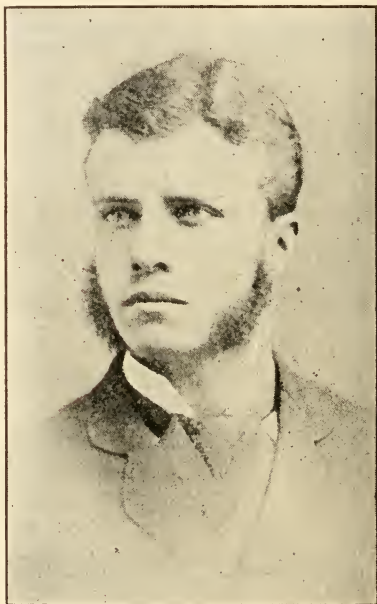
A judge in the state had shown himself guilty of improper if not illegal relations with certain selfish interests. It stirred young Roosevelt to action. He demanded the impeachment of the unworthy judge. A storm of protests arose in the Assembly. He was voted down. Day after day for eight days he came back to the attack. His enemies gave up the fight. The young legislator won, with only six votes against his motion. It was a great moral victory.

A bill came up to prohibit the manufacture of cigars in tenement houses. Roosevelt was placed upon a committee to investigate the subject. He went into the tenement houses. He found living in one room three men, two women, and several children. Here such families ate, slept, lived and made cigars—all in one room. Roosevelt supported the bill. It was vigorously opposed by those capitalists who were coining money from the foul conditions the young man saw. The bill passed and was approved by Governor Cleveland, who later became President of the United States.

In these early fights for the right Roosevelt finally came to the conclusion that he could not accomplish much unless he had the aid of other men, men whom he did not think of as possessing large views or humane ideals, but men who had the votes and power to help or hinder him. He told his friend Jacob Riis that if he were to be of use he must work with men as they are. "As long as the good in them overbalances the evil I will work with them for the best that can be got." This did not in any way lower his own ideals but gave him a basis of success in his entire political

career. He made the most of conditions as he found them. He fought steadily to improve the conditions. At the proper time, when education of the public mind had advanced, he strove for the wiser, the better, the loftier things, and he usually won.

When Blaine was nominated in 1884 there arose the Mugwump opposition—so-called by Charles A. Dana, editor of the *New York Sun*. Roosevelt served as a delegate to the Republican National Convention in Chicago and was known there as an anti-Blaine leader. But after the nomination he believed it his duty to support the candidate of the party. This stand led Roosevelt's friends to charge him with impulsiveness. Indeed, in his long public career, that charge was made time after time. Roosevelt denied that he was impulsive. He thought things out in advance. He knew when occasion arose just what he would do. He was thus ready to



Theodore Roosevelt in His Freshman Year at Harvard—1876.
(Courtesy of Corinne Roosevelt Robinson and Charles Scribner's Sons.)

act. His prompt action was called impulsiveness, but he himself says, "It was nothing of the sort." It really was foresight and preparedness. Preparedness he believed in both for persons and for nations. He had no use for the typical pacifist.

AS A RANCHMAN

While still an Assemblyman, Roosevelt tasted life on the plains. In September, 1883, he left the train at a little town called Medora, in North Dakota. He struck up an acquaintance with two brothers named Ferris, went buffalo hunting with them, and with them as partners bought the Chimney Butte Ranch near the Little Missouri River. He used as his brand the Maltese cross. Because his poor sight compelled him to wear spectacles, Roosevelt the ranch owner was known as "Four Eyes." It was thus he began his long and valuable training as a frontiersman.

In 1884, saddened by the death of both his wife and his mother, he again went West. While retaining Chimney Butte Ranch, he started another, Elkhorn Ranch, having sent for two Maine woodsman friends, Sewall and Dow, to help him. In building the house for Elkhorn Ranch, Roosevelt helped the others cut the necessary cottonwood logs. Someone asked Dow what the total cut for one day was, and he replied, "Well, Bill (Sewall) cut down fifty-three, I cut forty-nine, and the boss he 'beavered' down seventeen."

The round-ups for the purpose of branding the young animals were always occasions of great interest. They were often times of trouble, and if a roundsman was looking for a fight he could easily have one. But Roosevelt found that if a man avoided brag and bluster, did his work well, and never forced himself unduly upon his fellows he got along well. These hardy men of the plains were at heart real Americans and loved their country and the ideals of liberty and justice. On many occasions the round-up requires much daring and great endurance. Roosevelt once was in the saddle continuously for sixteen hours, on another occasion

for twenty-four hours and once for nearly forty hours.

His lessons in boxing stood him in good stead, and many are the stories of the foolish ranchers and cowboys that came to grief through his skill, not his strength. He kept up the boxing even when he was President until, in a friendly bout with a young artillery captain, his left eye was injured so severely that ever afterward its vision was dim. He said, "If it had been the right eye I should have been entirely unable to shoot."

Roosevelt's struggle for health was finally successful. The life of the plains and mountains put into his body the fine vigor and tireless energy that showed itself in all his mature years. "Bill" Sewall said, "He went to Dakota a frail young man, suffering from asthma and stomach trouble. When he got back into the world again he was as husky as almost any man I have ever seen who wasn't dependent on his arms for his livelihood. He weighed one hundred and fifty pounds, and was clear bone, muscle and grit." And he had won the respect, admiration, and love of the cowboys.

His heroic example in gaining for himself the strength of body so necessary to a successful career is an inspiration to all young Americans. Physical fitness is the basis of intellectual and moral fitness. A nation that does not directly train for physical power in its people will never achieve leadership or accomplish large services for mankind.

In the fall of 1886, Roosevelt at his Elkhorn Ranch read in the newspapers that he had been nominated by the Independents to run for mayor of New York City. He returned to the East to enter the campaign. But even with the Republican support which he received, he was unable to overthrow Tammany. After his de-

feat by Abram S. Hewitt, he sailed for England, and in London he was married to Miss Edith Kermit Carow of New York, who had been a friend of his sister Corinne and himself since childhood. The couple returned to New York, and Roosevelt thereafter, although he still journeyed to his ranch for vacations, devoted himself chiefly to political affairs. In 1888 he went on the stump for General Harrison, in the Presidential campaign, and Harrison, after taking office, appointed Roosevelt a Civil Service Commissioner. In New York he had to fight the old, deep-set, vicious system of politics that proclaimed "To the victor belong the spoils." He gave life and meaning to the merit system and successfully fought its enemies in public life. His six years in this office greatly advanced civil reform and taught all Americans, save the office-seeking horde, that public office is a public trust, and that only those should hold office who honestly and capably serve the whole people. (

A NEW KIND OF POLICE COMMISSIONER

In 1895, when Mayor Strong came into office in New York, Roosevelt became president of the Police Commission. He accepted this post knowing well that there was much important work to do. He set about doing it. The policemen of the city he liked. The system that directed them was bad. Roosevelt said, "There are no better men anywhere than the men of the New York police force; and when they go bad it is because the system is wrong, and because they are not given the chance to do the good work they can do and would rather do." He set about to change this evil system. Partisan politics and places for ward henchmen were not viewed with favor. The system of sell-

ing to the best bidder places on the force was vigorously denounced and destroyed. Again he declared, "We pay not the slightest attention to a man's politics, or creed, or where he was born, so long as he is a good American citizen." This declaration is in complete harmony with the loftiest ideals of our Republic.

As head of the Police Department, young Roosevelt made his own study of conditions. Night after night he walked the streets, visited the resort places of the rougher elements of the city's complex population, and saw for himself just what conditions were and what treatment was necessary to correct the evils and crime of the community. On one of these journeys he met a young Jew, named Raphael, who had won renown in the rescue of women and children from a burning building. Roosevelt urged Raphael to take the examination for a place on the police force. The young man did so, was successful, and became a policeman of unusual ability. Roosevelt says of him, "He and his family have been close friends of mine ever since."

In his heroic work to make our greatest city the best governed city, Roosevelt was signally fortunate to have as his friend and supporter Jacob Riis, who did more than any other man of his time to clean up the slums of the great city. His book *How the Other Half Lives* was an inspiring call to service. When Theodore Roosevelt read it he called at Mr. Riis's office but finding him out left a card on which he wrote, "I have read your book. I have come down to help." These great-hearted men became lifelong allies in public service. In 1901, in the White House, President Roosevelt told the writer that in case the United States purchased the Danish West Indies (Virgin Islands) during his administration, he intended to make Jacob Riis governor of them.

When Roosevelt endeavored to find the records of policemen who might deserve reward for unusual bravery, honesty, or capacity, it was found that no record of individual policemen was kept. No one knew, apparently no one cared, what the policemen did. The Commissioner was shocked to find that a rule of the Department provided that the officer who spoiled his uniform in rescuing man, woman or child from the river must get a new one at his own expense. It took Theodore Roosevelt not many minutes to blot out this disgraceful rule and to establish the principle that unusual service of a high order should have proper recognition. In his two years as Commissioner, over one hundred men were singled out for special mention and reward because of some act of heroism.

A certain fine old policeman, a veteran of the Civil War, one day saved a woman from drowning. Roosevelt sent for the man. He came, timid and fearful, for he had never been summoned before the Commissioner and had never been promoted. In twenty-two years on the force he had saved more than twenty-five persons from drowning and had rescued many from burning buildings. No one in New York noted his heroic work, though Congress had twice given him medals for distinguished gallantry in saving life. Other medals came to him. The one thing he could not get was a promotion. He had no political backing. When Roosevelt learned all this he was quick to render justice to a worthy man, and "It may be worth mentioning," says Roosevelt, "that he kept on saving life after he was given his sergeantry."

The young reformer's greatest struggle was against the illegally operated saloons. The law forbade the sale of liquor on Sunday. But somebody "high up" in politics had issued orders to allow certain saloons to

sell liquor openly on Sunday. Doubtless these saloons were enjoying special favors and paid dearly to the blackmailers who defied the law and corrupted the police force. Roosevelt ordered these saloons to close. The "personal liberty" crowd began to yell. Certain sordid newspapers set up a great cry. The owners of the favored saloons ran to those "higher up." A storm had set in. The saloons were closed and they remained closed until a judge friendly to the liquor interests ruled that drink could be sold with a "meal." At once they resumed operations, selling a pretzel as a "meal" and with it all the drink desired. But blackmail and political "higher-ups" had had a lesson. A moral victory was won. The country was learning bit by bit to move toward national prohibition.

ROOSEVELT AND THE ROUGH RIDERS

In 1897 President McKinley called Theodore Roosevelt to Washington as Assistant Secretary of the Navy. He had served in this capacity for one year when the Cuban situation led to war with Spain.

The country was wholly unprepared for war. Roosevelt declared that he believed America would always be unready for war. So much has been said about Roosevelt being a fighting man, a lover of strife, a believer in war, that it is well to know from his own pen just what he did believe. He says, "I abhor unjust war. I abhor injustice and bullying by the strong at the expense of the weak, whether among nations or individuals. I abhor violence and bloodshed. I believe that war should never be resorted to when, or so long as, it is honorably possible to avoid it. I respect all men and women who from high motives and with sanity and self-respect do all they can to avert war. I ad-

vocate preparation for war in order to avert war; and I should never advocate war unless it were the only alternative to dishonor."

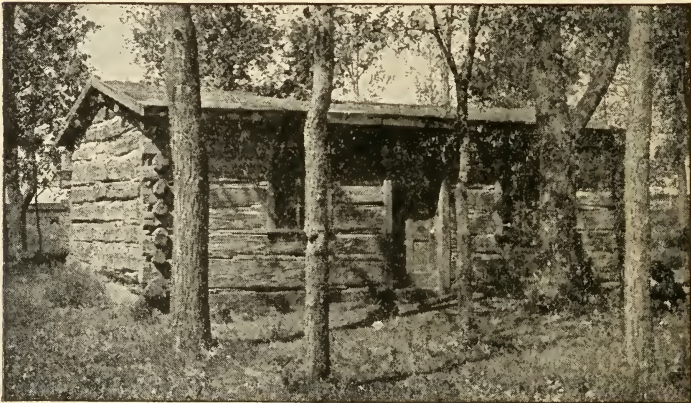
He saw the horrors of the Spanish rule in Cuba, and he felt that it was no longer honorable for the United States to sit by and witness the atrocities in that island. He believed it would be better to end a "peace" of continuous murder by a "war" which stopped the murder and brought real peace. "Our own direct interests were great, because of the Cuban tobacco and sugar, and especially because of Cuba's relation to the projected Isthmian Canal. But even greater were our interests from the standpoint of humanity. Cuba was at our very doors. It was a dreadful thing to sit supinely and watch her death agony. It was our duty, even more from the standpoint of national honor than from the standpoint of national interests, to stop the devastation and destruction."

This is why Roosevelt favored war with Spain and why he volunteered in the service. While he was Assistant Secretary of the Navy, the *Maine* was blown up in Havana harbor. War became inevitable. In the absence of the Secretary of the Navy, Roosevelt on February 25, 1898, cabled the American squadrons in Asiatic, European and South American waters, to rendezvous at certain convenient points, where, should war break out, they would be most available.

When war was finally declared Roosevelt determined to go to the front. "I had very deeply felt," said he, "that it was our duty to free Cuba, and I had publicly expressed this feeling; and when a man takes such a position, he ought to be willing to make his words good by his deeds, unless there is some very strong reason to the contrary. He should pay with his body."

Secretary of War Alger asked Roosevelt to become Colonel of the First United States Volunteer Cavalry. But Roosevelt urged Leonard Wood for that place and requested that he himself be made second in command. This request was granted. The regiment was soon nicknamed both by the public and by the other units of the army the Rough Riders. It was made up of first-class young men of the East, many of them graduates of America's great colleges, and of fine, daring, dauntless men from the West and Southwest. A number of them were men with whom Roosevelt had fellowshipped far out on the plains and deep in the mountain fastnesses of the then remote West.

The regiment arrived in Cuba June 22, 1898, having regretfully left their horses in the United States. Within a few days they distinguished themselves at Las Guasimas. Wood was then made brigadier general and Roosevelt succeeded him as colonel.



Roosevelt's Chimney Butte Ranch House

This now stands on the grounds of the North Dakota State Capitol at Bismarck. It is often spoken of as the "Maltese Cross Ranch House" from the cattle brand used on the ranch. The Elkhorn Ranch House, built later, was larger and more comfortable.

The Rough Riders at San Juan Hill, under Roosevelt's leadership, rendered valiant service and helped win the first important land battle of the war. Soon thereafter Santiago surrendered and the war came to a speedy end. The Rough Riders were disbanded and Roosevelt was called to other public service. It was not a great war but as Roosevelt said, in addressing veterans of the Civil War, "It wasn't much of a war, but it was all the war we had."

We are told that in the final fighting at San Juan, when a Spanish trench was rushed and captured, Jack Greenway, one of the gallant Rough Riders, captured a Spaniard. Later in the day Colonel Roosevelt found Jack leading his prisoner around with a string. Roosevelt directed Greenway to turn his prisoner over to a man who had two or three other prisoners, so that they might all be taken to the rear. Jack looked much aggrieved and said, "Why, Colonel, can't I keep him for myself?" Jack really regarded his captive as a trophy of the chase and wanted to retain him as his body servant.

Among his Western volunteers was a former cow-puncher, round-up cook and a dead shot. On the transport this man refused to obey an officer of the transport. When the officer told him to consider himself under arrest, the man offered to fight the officer for a trifling consideration. For this he was court-martialed and sentenced to a year's imprisonment at hard labor and a dishonorable discharge. The major-general of the division approved the sentence. Upon his arrival in Cuba, this prisoner came to Colonel Roosevelt and said, "Colonel, they say you're going to leave me with the baggage when the fight is on. Colonel, if you do that I will never show my face in Arizona again. Colonel, if you will let me go to the front,

I promise I will obey anyone you say; anyone you say, Colonel." To which appeal Roosevelt replied, "Shields, there is no one in the regiment more entitled to be shot than you are, and you shall go to the front." The poor fellow was so grateful he said over and over again, "Oh, I'll never forget this, Colonel, never." And he never did. When the men were in distress from lack of food, Shields would in some way manage to secure flour and sugar, cook a doughnut and bring it to the Colonel. Shields behaved well in the fights and at the end Roosevelt remitted his sentence, although, as he confesses, he had not the slightest power to do so. When the time came for mustering out, the officer in charge asked Colonel Roosevelt where the prisoner was. "What prisoner?" he asked. The regular officer said, "The prisoner, the man who was sentenced to a year's imprisonment with hard labor and dishonorable discharge." Roosevelt replied, "Oh! I pardoned him." To this the regular officer responded, "I beg your pardon; you did what?" This question made the Colonel grasp the fact that he had exceeded his authority, but he answered, "Well, I did pardon him, anyhow, and he has gone with the rest." The mustering-out officer sank back in his chair and said, "He was sentenced by a court martial, and the sentence was approved by the major-general commanding the division. You were a lieutenant-colonel, and you pardoned him. Well, it was nervy, that's all I'll say."

Because the United States was unprepared for war and had not developed proper agencies to care for the army in the field, diseases common to the tropics broke out among the men in the army around Santiago, Cuba. Malaria, the most common of these diseases, attacked the army so severely that the situation became critical. Roosevelt was one of many who real-

ized that something startling must be done to arouse official Washington, appeals through military channels having been without effect. He therefore wrote a protest which was handed to the newspaper correspondents by General Shafter. In it he appealed for the withdrawal of the troops to some healthful training ground where they could be put in shape for the fall campaign. This statement of itself might not have had the desired effect. But it was at once reinforced by a "round robin" letter signed by a number of officers, from generals down. The "round robin" gained its name from the fact that the signatures were placed in a circle, in order to relieve any one officer from appearing to be more responsible than the others for this breach of army regulations. Roosevelt's courage in the matter appealed to the popular mind, and widespread indignation forced the War Department to act. Arrangements were made for the troops to be returned immediately to this country. About this time peace negotiations were opened, so that the army's return was permanent instead of temporary.

To the round-robin incident there is a sequel. Official Washington was, of course, much disturbed that subordinate officers should address the public directly concerning a matter of official policy. Naturally, they waited an occasion to discipline the "offenders." Roosevelt was regarded as one, if not the leading, offender. The occasion came after the surrender of Santiago. Colonel Roosevelt wrote Secretary Alger begging that the Rough Riders be transferred to the campaign in Porto Rico. In this letter the Colonel extolled his own troops and in a burst of enthusiasm declared that his regiment was worth "three of the National Guard regiments, armed with their archaic black powder rifles." Greatly irritated, Secretary Alger telegraphed and

made public a message of censure for what he honestly but mistakenly thought was a reflection upon the soldiers of the National Guard.

The incident closed happily for the Secretary and for the Colonel. In August, 1898, when the Rough Riders landed at Montauk Point, Long Island, an army officer handed Colonel Roosevelt a sealed letter in which Secretary Alger said:

“DEAR COLONEL ROOSEVELT:

“You have been a most gallant officer and in the battle before Santiago showed superb soldierly qualities. I would rather add to, than detract from, the honors you have so fairly won, and I wish you all good things. In a moment of aggravation under great stress of feeling, first because I thought you spoke in a disparaging manner of the volunteers (probably without intent, but because of your great enthusiasm for your own men) and second, that I believed your published letter would embarrass the Department I sent you a telegram which, with an extract from a private letter of yours, I gave to the press. I would gladly recall both if I could, but unable to do that I write you this letter which I hope you will receive in the same friendly spirit in which I send it. Come and see me at an early day. No one will welcome you more heartily than I.

“RUSSELL A. ALGER.”

This manly letter was received in a manly way and when Roosevelt was President and Secretary Alger was in the Senate they were stanch friends, working hand in hand for the common good.

Upon his arrival in this country, Roosevelt was met by a group of friends and also by a delegation of politicians. Both groups wanted him to become the Republican candidate for governor of New York. His

friends really wanted him to have the office. The political bosses did not want him. They found they could not use him. They knew, however, that to win they must put up an unusually fine candidate. The political group wanted to know, of course, what Roosevelt would do for them or *to* them were he to become governor. They were not long in doubt. Roosevelt said he would like to be nominated, would conduct a vigorous campaign and would not make war upon Thomas C. Platt, head of the state party organization, or upon anybody else, if he could be governor of the state and not a factional leader. He also said that he would insist upon direct personal relations with everybody, that he would hear Mr. Platt and all others in any matter of appointment or policy, only reserving to himself the right to "act finally as my own judgment and conscience dictated and administer the state government as I thought it ought to be administered."

This was plain talk. It did not please the politicians, but they were helpless, and Roosevelt, after a hard campaign, was by a small majority elected governor of New York.

GOVERNOR OF NEW YORK

His term began January 1, 1899. He was now forty years of age, and held what many regard as the second most important executive place in the nation. His career at Albany was marked by many notable acts, and especially by an increase in the people's power and a decrease in the power of the "bosses."

Mr. Platt set about to select officials for the governor's cabinet. Roosevelt refused absolutely to allow this. He determined to name his own cabinet. Mr. Platt yielded and Roosevelt won. In the case of the

insurance commissioner, Governor Roosevelt, even when told point-blank that a refusal to reappoint the holder of the office meant political ruin, refused to yield and the appointment of a new man of the governor's choosing was made.

When he proposed that service corporations should be taxed upon the value of the privileges they enjoyed, a great struggle arose. These corporations had, by fair or unfair means, secured special favors from the holders of state offices. This was fundamentally opposed to the new governor's ideals. He admitted that men of capacity, in charge of great industries, should be well paid for their unusual ability. "But while I freely admit all this, it yet remains true that a corporation which derives its powers from the state should pay the state a just percentage of its earnings as a return for the privileges it enjoys." The governor's message proposing to accomplish this just end was sent to the Assembly. The speaker refused to have it read. Someone tore it up. This was not only a misdemeanor, it was a political blunder. The politicians ran to cover. The bill was reported favorably and passed. Governor Roosevelt had won a notable victory, for on appeal the law was finally confirmed as constitutional by the Supreme Court of the United States.

He secured the passage of many humane laws. The Civil Service Law, repealed in the term of his predecessor, he had re-enacted. He had the number of factory inspectors increased in order to insure safety and decency for people at work. Laws were also passed to correct tenement conditions, to regulate sweat-shops, to make wages conform to hours of labor, to compel railroads to equip freight trains with air brakes, to regulate the working hours of women, to protect work-

ers from dangerous machinery, and to provide seats for waitresses in restaurants and hotels. He also worked diligently for an employers' liability law, but did not succeed in having such a measure passed.

Roosevelt really wanted to be re-elected governor. He knew there was yet much to do to make his state a better place in which to live and to rear a family. Although this was not to be, he left a great legacy at Albany. Jacob Riis says that after that, when a measure came up in the Assembly, men did not ask, "What is it worth to me? How is it going to help the party?" but they asked only, "Is it right?" "That," says Riis, "is Roosevelt's legacy to Albany. And it was worth his coming and going to have that."

VICE PRESIDENT AND PRESIDENT

When the Republican National Convention met in 1900 at Philadelphia, William McKinley was renominated for the Presidency. He did not want the office. He was willing and anxious to retire. He so informed the writer the week before his re-election. Theodore Roosevelt was nominated for the Vice Presidency, and *he* did not want *that* office. He wrote to Senator Platt, "I should like to be governor for another term. But as Vice President I don't see there is anything I can do. I should simply be a presiding officer, and that I should find a bore." Thus two men were chosen to two great offices that neither desired.

Within six months of their taking office, the President was assassinated at Buffalo, and Theodore Roosevelt became President on September 14, 1901. He announced his desire to continue the wise policies of his predecessor, and retained the McKinley cabinet.

He began at once to put force and meaning into the National Civil Service Law. He consulted the Con-

gressmen in making appointments but insisted in every case that those chosen possess fitness, capacity and efficiency. He set up a new standard of public service and aroused the public conscience, thus strengthening the nation's moral purpose. It was said of him that "While others are talking and carping, Mr. Roosevelt is carrying on in the White House a persistent and never-ending moral struggle with every powerful, selfish and exploiting interest in the country." This the people came to know. They approved and with a tremendous vote gave him a second term as President.

The trust problem arose. Big business wanted to be let alone. Over against this was the cry, "Smash the trusts." The outlook was, indeed, not hopeful. Any action for or against the great and growing trusts was sure to arouse some criticism. Roosevelt was not slow to declare his views. In his first message to Congress he pointed out that the great captains of industry, in creating these so-called trusts, had done the country much good. On the other hand, the trusts had done harm because no one seemed to have power to compel them to behave. He insisted that the nation should assume powers of supervision and regulation over all corporations doing interstate business.

Congress had passed the Sherman Anti-Trust Law, but it was not believed that it had the power to prevent the formation of large trusts. However, the decision of the Supreme Court in the famous Northern Securities Company case gave new hope to the country. The proposed combination of practically all the great railway systems in the Northwest was held to be illegal and was directed to dissolve.

This decision of the Supreme Court was all the more remarkable because it was in direct conflict with a

former decision of the court in the great Sugar Trust case, known generally as the Knight case. Thus the government was confirmed in its power to deal with industrial monopoly and to suppress it and to control and regulate combinations of interests when such combinations were shown to work injustice to the people. Roosevelt was not opposed to corporations, nor to combinations of corporations, called trusts, but he insisted that they should be under thoroughgoing control by the federal government. Following this legal victory for the people, the President directed that suit be brought against the American Tobacco Company and the Standard Oil Company. That the government should have the power to dissolve any monopoly was not, in Roosevelt's opinion, wise. The Anti-Trust Law struck at all big business, good and bad alike, and while it had checked much bad big business it was a constant threat against decent big business.

THE "BIG STICK" AND THE "SQUARE DEAL"

The President urged such modifications of the Anti-Trust Law as would give the government thorough and complete control over all big business combinations engaged in interstate industry. It is clear that he did this not at all to prevent great combinations of industry. The decision of the Supreme Court already settled that. But he wished to save decent big business from constant menace, for he believed in honest business activities, great and small alike.

He was opposed by the foolish radicals, whose slogan was "Down with the trusts," and also by the great privileged interests themselves, who did not want the government, by any regulatory control, to interfere with their activities. However, the President did succeed in having a law passed creating a Department of

Commerce and Labor and establishing a Bureau of Corporations. Roosevelt's position as regards business, in his use of what is usually called the "big stick," is best set forth by himself: "Where a company is found seeking its profits through serving the community by stimulating production, lowering prices or improving service, while scrupulously respecting the rights of others (including its rivals, its employees, its customers, and the general public) and strictly obeying the law, then no matter how large its capital or how great the volume of its business it would be encouraged to still more abundant production, or better service, by the fullest protection that the government could afford it. On the other hand, if a corporation were found seeking profit through injury or oppression of the community, by restricting production through trick or device, by plot or conspiracy against competitors, or by oppression of wage-workers, and then extorting high prices for the commodity it had made artificially scarce, it would be prevented from again organizing if its nefarious purpose could be discovered in time, or pursued and suppressed by all the power of the government whenever found in actual operation. This would put a stop to abuses of big corporations and small corporations alike; it would draw the line on conduct and not on size; it would destroy monopoly, and make the biggest business man in the country conform squarely to the principles laid down by the American people, while at the same time giving fair play to the little man and certainty of knowledge as to what was wrong and what was right both to big man and little man."

Vigorous as he was with the "big stick" in dealing with the corporations when they did wrong, the President was equally courageous in proclaiming the

“square deal” for the same corporations or others when they did what was right.

In the case of the Tennessee Coal and Iron Company he was criticized for giving his aid to a combination of corporations because he was brave enough to demand a “square deal” when it was not popular so to do. In 1907 there were severe business disturbances, culminating in a panic which arose in New York and became nation-wide. The word “panic” means fear, and to stop a panic it is necessary to restore confidence. In this crisis two prominent business men, Henry C. Frick and E. H. Gary, called upon the President and informed him that great business interests would be certain to fail if help were not given. They also explained that if the United States Steel Corporation could take over the Tennessee Coal and Iron Company and put the good credit of the former back of the poor credit of the latter the panic could be stopped. The President saw that these men were right, that they had no selfish purpose in the matter, and he at once approved the consolidation. The panic was stopped and business returned to its normal activities. However, Roosevelt was severely censured by press and people. They thought he had surrendered to big business when, as a matter of fact, he had only given a square deal to the large corporations and had done the country a great service.

He defended his action in this case by declaring, “If I were on a sailboat, I should not ordinarily meddle with any of the gear; but if a sudden squall struck us, and the main sheet jammed, so that the boat threatened to capsize, I would unhesitatingly cut the main sheet, even though I were sure that the owner, no matter how grateful to me at the moment for having saved his life, would a few weeks later, when he had for-

gotten his danger and his fear, decide to sue me for the value of the cut rope. But I would feel a hearty contempt for the owner who so acted."

The President determined to break up, also, the vicious system of rebates. A rebate was a return by carrying companies to favored shippers of a part of the freight charged. In this way some shippers could readily undersell and destroy their less favored competitors. The Hepburn Act of 1906 gave the government the power to fix maximum rates for the carrying of freight in interstate commerce. This put an end to a growing evil and gave all shippers of commodities equal justice. It was one of many efforts by the President to secure the adoption of the square deal in business.

"I found," said he, "when I became President that the power of the national government over the railways was either not exercised at all or exercised with utter inefficiency. The law against rebates was a dead letter. All the unscrupulous railway men had been allowed to violate it with impunity; and because of this the scrupulous and decent railway men had been forced to violate it themselves under penalty of being beaten by their less scrupulous rivals. It was not the fault of these decent railway men. It was the fault of the government."

This square deal in business was clearly set forth in an address in 1907 in which the President declared, "I want you to understand that I will stand just as straight for the rights of the honest man who wins his fortune by honest methods as I will stand against the dishonest man who wins a fortune by dishonest methods." And again he declared, "Let us remember that justice can never be justice unless it is equal. Do justice to the rich man and exact justice from him; do

justice to the poor man and exact justice from him—justice to the capitalist and justice to the wage-worker." Thus he set up justice, the majesty of law, above the rights or privileges of individuals. It was a definite defiance of those who, under one guise or another, from time to time prattle about "personal liberty" and who at heart mean personal license. The law is supreme and all must obey it. Those who refuse to obey the law have no right to demand the protection of the law.

In like manner he declared for a square deal for



© Underwood & Underwood

Roosevelt on a Visit to Yosemite National Park

labor. At the Sorbonne in Paris, when returning from his famous African hunting expedition in 1910, he said, "In every civilized society property rights must be carefully safeguarded. Ordinarily and in the great majority of cases, human rights and property rights are in the long run identical; but when it clearly appears that there is a real conflict between them, human rights must have the upper hand, for property belongs to man and not man to property." He also placed the force of his influence against all violations of law by labor or by capital. "Remember, please, that he who counsels violence does the cause of labor the poorest service. Also, he loses his case. Understand distinctly that order will be kept."

It was this truly American note that won for him renown in settling the great coal strike of 1902. Time after time, as the circumstances required, he held steadily to the ideal of equal justice to all, which ideal is perhaps best set forth in his declaration, "While I am President the doors shall swing open as easily to the wage-worker as to the head of a big corporation—and *no easier!*" He did not intend to have anyone assume that he would "take sides."



CONSERVATION AND PEACEMAKING

Roosevelt early sensed the nation's need to conserve its vast natural resources and to reclaim arid places. He saw clearly that we of this generation have a duty to those coming after us. "The forest and water problems are perhaps the most vital internal questions of the United States." Under the spur of his leadership laws were enacted that led to the building of the great Shoshone Dam in Wyoming. It is 310 feet high. The mountains of Colorado were tunneled and the waters of the Gunnison River were carried six

miles to make fertile the vast wastes of the Uncompahgre Valley. The great Roosevelt Dam in Arizona impounded the waters of the Salt River and was made to water 750,000 acres of soil. By 1915 this wise policy had made arable 1,250,000 acres of waste lands, and increased the value of our farm products yearly by more than \$18,000,000.

When Roosevelt became President the so-called forest preserves were the prey of greedy men. There was no efficient supervision. Fire annually wrought untold damage. Roosevelt saw that the annual growth of timber was only one third of the annual timber cut. He also saw that in less than a generation the nation would have a lumber famine. The natural supplies of gas, oil, coal and forage plants also were rapidly passing away. Something had to be done if the natural wealth of the country were to remain as a great heritage for following generations. He transferred the Forestry Service to the Department of Agriculture and added to the preserves of the country until the people held forever 194,000,000 acres of public land.

On June 8, 1905, President Roosevelt asked Russia and Japan, then at war, "not only for their own sakes, but in the interest of the whole civilized world, to open direct negotiations for peace with each other." The suggestion was accepted. The representatives of the two great powers met at Portsmouth, New Hampshire, and concluded an honorable treaty. For his part in this settlement, the President was acclaimed a great peacemaker and was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for that year. With part of the \$40,000 which he received, he endowed the Foundation for the Promotion of International Peace, and \$10,000 of it he gave in 1915 toward the work of the Inter-church Committee on Unemployment.

BUILDING THE PANAMA CANAL

Roosevelt was responsible for the building of the Panama Canal. This great achievement was carried to a successful end in spite of much criticism. His action in 1903 in recognizing Panama as a republic, securing rights from the new nation, and pushing the work of construction, is still a subject of discussion. Work was begun May 4, 1904, and the canal was opened August 15, 1914. The success of the undertaking was largely due to the two men whom Roosevelt chose to head the engineering and sanitary work, Colonel (later Major General) George W. Goethals and Colonel (later Major General) William C. Gorgas. For the most part, criticism of Roosevelt in connection with the canal long ago was transformed into admiration. Most people are willing to accept the plain fact that the canal is open, thereby greatly improving inter-oceanic travel. The citizens of the Canal Zone have good health where once disease was prevalent, and the United States is provided with a greatly increased national defense.

Ever since Balboa crossed the Isthmus and gazed upon the Pacific Ocean there has been talk of building a canal to shorten the water journey to the western coast of North America, and to save Europeans time and distance in the westward voyage to the Orient. The question of our right to build the canal upon territory originally belonging to Colombia hinged upon the meaning and application of the Monroe Doctrine, which lays down the rule that the Western Hemisphere is not to be treated as subject to settlement and occupation by Old World powers. This doctrine is, of course, not international law, but it is, as Roosevelt declared, "a cardinal principle of our foreign policy."

If, then, upon request, the United States would come to the assistance of any country in North or South America that was threatened by any Old World power, it is clear that the United States itself should at no time do what it denied others. By this Monroe Doctrine we not only guaranteed these sister countries of America against encroachments by foreign powers but we, in all fairness, guaranteed them against any act of settlement or occupation by ourselves.

Under the Hay-Pauncefote Treaty, signed soon after Roosevelt became President, and by agreement with the French Panama Company that had failed to build, under a concession, the canal, the United States was free, so far as Europe was concerned, to undertake the building of a canal. There remained, then, only the need to obtain rights from the country whose territory it would cross. The location of the canal became an important matter. Nicaragua was most anxious to have the canal built through its territory, north of Panama. As long as a doubt existed as to the location, Colombia, in whose territory the Isthmus of Panama was located, also showed friendly concern and promised hearty co-operation. Her delegates at the Pan-American Congress in Mexico City joined unanimously in requesting the United States to build the canal.

The board of experts sent to examine the two routes reported that the Isthmian route was better than the Nicaraguan. Since 1846 the United States had had a treaty with the power in control of the Isthmus of Panama guaranteeing to the United States free and open way across the Isthmus by any mode of transportation that might be constructed. In return for this concession our government guaranteed the complete neutrality of the Isthmus with a view to the preservation of free transit.

Colombia was in constant revolution. Her Congress and her President were determined to delay action on the Hay-Pauncefote Treaty and in this way attempt to secure the \$40,000,000 the United States agreed to pay the French Panama Company for its property and its concession on the Isthmus. On October 16, 1903, the President was advised that a revolution was forming in Panama against the Colombian government. On November 3 this revolution occurred. By unanimous action of the people of Panama and without the firing of a shot the State of Panama became an independent republic. With this new republic Roosevelt negotiated the acquisition by the United States of the Canal Zone, thus making the way clear to build the canal. Colombia resented our dealing with the new republic and the subject became one of bitter controversy in our own country. The President was charged with having "usurped authority." However, his Secretary of State, John Hay, declared, "The action of the President in the Panama matter is not only in the strictest accordance with the principles of justice and equity, and in line with all the best precedents of our public policy, but it was the only course he could have taken in compliance with our treaty rights and obligations."

It has been charged that the President encouraged, actually helped, plan the revolution in Panama. The best answer to this falsehood is his own declaration, "No one connected with the American government had any part in preparing, inciting, or encouraging the revolution, and except for the reports of our military and naval officers, which I forwarded to Congress, no one connected with the government had any previous knowledge concerning the revolution." Could any denial be more definite or sweeping than this?

The President also says, "The canal would not have been built at all save for the action I took. If men choose to say that it would have been better not to build it than to build it as the result of such action, their position, although foolish, is compatible with belief in their wrong-headed sincerity. But it is hypocrisy, alike odious and contemptible, for any man to say both that we ought to have built the canal and that we ought not to have acted in the way we did."

However, the controversy over our treatment of Colombia, a sister republic, continued to challenge public attention. Finally, in 1922, with the approval of President Harding, the United States paid Colombia \$25,000,000 in full payment of any and all claims she may have had in the Panama Canal case.

Having served as President nearly the entire term for which McKinley had been elected, Roosevelt was made the Republican candidate for the office in 1904, practically without opposition, and was elected by a popular majority of over 2,500,000, the largest on record. His opponent was Judge Alton B. Parker of New York. At the time of the election Roosevelt declared that under no circumstances would he be a candidate for another term. This was generally understood to mean that he would *never* again be a candidate; but subsequently, in connection with the 1912 campaign, he said he had meant that he would not be a candidate again to succeed himself. At all events, in 1908 he used his influence successfully to secure the nomination and election of William Howard Taft. Mr. Taft came into office with a record of wide experience. He had been a federal judge, Civil Governor of the Philippines and, while Secretary of War in Roosevelt's cabinet, a close friend and confidant of the President.

HUNTER, EDITOR, AND "BULL MOOSE"

Less than a month after his successor took office, Roosevelt, with his son Kermit and others, sailed for East Africa on a scientific expedition, under the auspices of the Smithsonian Institution. Numerous valuable specimens of big game were taken by his prowess and brought back for the collection of the National Museum in Washington. Not the least successful feature of the trip was the Ex-President's return through Europe, which was a triumphal journey of a kind experienced by no American since Grant. Roosevelt visited most of the great capitals and everywhere, by both rulers and populace, he was acclaimed. He delivered notable addresses at the Sorbonne, Paris, and other great universities, and astonished not only statesmen but philosophers, historians and naturalists with the depth and variety of his knowledge.

In June, 1910, Roosevelt returned to his homeland rested, successful, popular as never before. His intention was to keep out of politics and live quietly, though by no means inactively. However, he came before the public in connection with criticism of the Washington administration and finally he became estranged from Taft who, he believed, had failed to carry out the reforms that both had been interested in, and had failed to appoint to his cabinet certain Roosevelt supporters. Taft claimed that he had never promised to appoint these men. Years later the two Ex-Presidents were reconciled and their old friendship was renewed.

Deciding to utilize his energies in writing, Roosevelt accepted an offer to join the staff of *The Outlook* as contributing editor. But he was not allowed to re-

main at a desk, although he did write for *The Outlook* until 1914. There were tens of thousands of his admirers throughout the country who clamored for his return to the Presidency. These men, and women, were out of sympathy with the "stand-pat" element of the Republican Party. They would have been glad to reform the party from the inside, with Roosevelt as their standard-bearer, but when the Republican National Convention met in Chicago in June, 1912, it renominated Taft. Roosevelt had become a candidate for the nomination, at the solicitation of a number of governors of states who united in a letter of appeal that he do so, pledging their support. He knew that he had a fighting chance, and replied, "My hat is in the ring." The "insurgent" element, when it found that it could not impress its will on the convention, broke away and formed a new organization, the Progressive Party, and with tremendous enthusiasm nominated Roosevelt for President. This occurred in Chicago in August. The party took as its symbol the Bull Moose. (Roosevelt had told the reporters that he "felt as strong as a bull moose.")

The campaign that followed, based upon an appeal for an administration that would make "social justice" a reality, was bitter almost without precedent. As a climax to the excitement, Roosevelt himself, while speaking in Milwaukee, was shot by a crazy man. With a bullet in his chest, he insisted on finishing his speech before having the wound attended to. This incident occurred in October, and prevented further speech-making by the candidate until just before the election.

At the polls the Progressives made a gallant showing, with more than 4,000,000 votes—700,000 more

than the Republicans; but both were overwhelmed by the Democratic candidates, headed by Woodrow Wilson. The Progressive Party as an organization did not last long, but its influence continued to be felt. The former Bull Moose adherents gradually became identified again with one or the other of the long-established parties, chiefly the Republican, and exerted their insurgent or progressive efforts from within. To be sure, the Progressives again made Roosevelt their candidate for President in 1916, but after a month he declined the nomination and threw his influence to the side of the Republican candidate, Charles E. Hughes.

Soon after the election in 1912, Roosevelt, always longing for the wilds, went on an extended hunting and exploring trip in Brazil. Before striking into the jungle, however, he visited several of the South American countries, where he had been invited to deliver a number of addresses. In 1914, with his party, which again included his son Kermit, he entered the Amazonian wilderness. As a result of his explorations, he discovered a hitherto unknown affluent of the Amazon, a river first called "The River of Doubt," but later named for its discoverer, *Rio Teodoro* (River Theodore). Although Roosevelt endured the extreme hardships of this adventure better than most of his party, and valiantly fought the tropical fever that attacked him, he was greatly weakened and his health permanently impaired by the experience. Thenceforth until his death he endured severe pain much of the time.

Roosevelt, although he was a "mighty hunter," did not brag about his exploits, and he had no use for others who did so. Nor did he believe in representing animals as possessing qualities commonly

considered distinctively human. Writers who did this he branded as "nature fakers." It is of interest to note how Roosevelt regarded the wild animals, so many of which fell before his rifle:

"I have shot only five kinds of animals which can fairly be called dangerous game—that is the lion, elephant, rhinoceros, and buffalo in Africa and the grizzly bear in the Rockies. Taking into account not only my own personal experiences, but the experiences of many veterans, I regard all the four African animals, but especially the lion, elephant and buffalo, as much more dangerous than the grizzly. As it happened, however, the only narrow escape I personally ever had was from a grizzly, and in Africa the animal killed closest to me, as it was charging, was a rhinoceros—all of which goes to show that a man must not generalize too broadly from his own personal experiences. On the whole, I think the lion the most dangerous of all these five animals; that is, I think that if fairly hunted there is a larger percentage of hunters killed or mauled for a given number of lions killed than for a given number of any one of the other animals. Yet I personally had no difficulties with lions. I twice killed lions which were at bay and just starting to charge, and I killed a heavy-maned male while it was in full charge. But in each instance I had plenty of leeway, the animal being so far off that even if my bullet had not been fatal I should have had time for a couple more shots. The African buffalo is undoubtedly a dangerous beast, but it happened that the few that I shot did not charge. A bull elephant, a vicious rogue, which had been killing people in the native villages, did charge before being shot at. My son Kermit and I stopped it at forty yards.

“Rhinoceroses are truculent, blustering beasts, much the most stupid of all the dangerous game I know. Generally their attitude is one of mere stupidity and bluff. But on occasions they do charge wickedly, both when wounded and when entirely unprovoked. The first I ever shot I mortally wounded at a few rods’ distance, and it charged with the utmost determination, whereat I and my companion both fired, and more by good luck than anything else brought it to the ground just thirteen paces from where we stood. Another rhinoceros may or may not have been meaning to charge me; I have never been certain which. It heard us and came at us through rather thick brush, snorting and tossing its head. I am by no means sure that it had fixedly hostile intentions, and indeed with my present experience I think it likely that if I had not fired it would have flinched at the last moment, and either retreated or gone by me. I stopped it with a couple of bullets and then followed it up and killed it. The skins of all these animals which I thus killed are in the National Museum at Washington.

“But, as I said above, the only narrow escape I met with was not from one of these dangerous African animals, but from a grizzly bear. I had wounded the bear just at sunset, in a wood of lodge-pole pines, and, following him, I wounded him again, as he stood on the other side of a thicket. He then charged through the brush, coming with such speed and with such an irregular gait that, try as I would, I was not able to get the sight of my rifle on the brainpan, though I hit him very hard with both the remaining barrels of my magazine Winchester. It was in the days of black powder, and the smoke hung. After my last shot the first thing I saw was

the bear's left paw as he struck at me, so close that I made a quick movement to one side. He was, however, practically already dead, and after another jump, and while in the very act of trying to turn to come at me, he collapsed like a shot rabbit."

CROWDED LAST YEARS

Soon after Roosevelt's return from South America (May 18, 1914) the European War began. It was not long before he came to the conclusion that eventually the United States would become involved. He pleaded and worked for American preparedness. His famous saying, "Speak softly and carry a big stick," was once more to have its application to his own life. When a declaration of war came, as he had declared it would come, he asked to be allowed to take a volunteer division overseas for immediate service. The Administration did not approve this request. However, all four of his sons—Theodore, Kermit, Archibald and Quentin—went into the service and distinguished themselves. Quentin, an aviator, was killed in battle and is buried in France.

About a year before his own death Roosevelt lay critically ill in a New York hospital. Blood poisoning which he had brought back from South America with him had necessitated an operation, and for one night his life was despaired of. At this time he called to him his sister, Mrs. Douglas Robinson, and whispered, "I am so glad that it is not one of my boys who is dying here, for *they* can die for their country."

However, Roosevelt lived to work again for the ideals and purposes that were dearer to him than his life. He never spared himself. He had promised himself when a young man to "work up to the hilt" until he was sixty, and he had more than fulfilled that

promise; but still he kept on. He delivered a number of stirring war speeches, not only in New York but in other states. His last public message, an address on Americanism, he was unable to give in person. Only a few hours before his death, this thrilling plea for a cause that he had made peculiarly his own was read by another from the stage of the New York Hippodrome:

“I cannot be with you, and so all I can do is to wish you God-speed. There must be no sagging back in the fight for Americanism merely because the war is over. There are plenty of persons who have already made the assertion that they believe the American people have a short memory, and that they intend to revive all the foreign associations which most directly interfere with the complete Americanization of our people.

“Our principle in this matter should be absolutely simple. [In the first place we should insist that if the immigrant who comes here in good faith becomes an American and assimilates himself to us, he shall be treated on an exact equality with everyone else, for it is an outrage to discriminate against any such man because of creed, or birthplace, or origin.]

[“But this is predicated upon the man’s becoming in very fact an American, and nothing but an American. If he tries to keep segregated with men of his own origin and separated from the rest of America, then he isn’t doing his part as an American.

☞“There can be no divided allegiance here. Any man who says he is an American, but something else also, isn’t an American at all. We have room for but one flag, the American flag, and this excludes the red flag which symbolizes all wars against liberty and civilization just as much as it excludes any foreign

flag of a nation to which we are hostile. We have room for but one language here, and that is the English language, for we intend to see that the crucible turns our people out as Americans, of American nationality, and not as dwellers in a polyglot boarding house; and we have room for but one soul loyalty and that is a loyalty to the American people.”

Worn out in body but undaunted in spirit, Theodore Roosevelt passed away on January 5, 1919, at his beloved Oyster Bay home. In accordance with his own request he was buried in the little cemetery of the village. His death brought profound sorrow to the entire nation. Those who had been his admirers and his opponents united in mourning his loss. William H. Taft declared, “The nation has lost the most commanding, the most original, the most interesting, the most brilliant personality in American public life since Lincoln.”

HIS IDEAL OF AMERICANISM

Roosevelt put into American thought many ideals that are now exemplified in our public procedure. He touched life in more ways than any other American of his time. He was a man of wide scholarship, an authority on natural history, a fine historian, a great political leader, a lover of the out-of-doors, a devoted friend of all oppressed people, an admirable husband and father, and a defender of the power and dignity of the country he loved. For the United States of America he lived, and for it, in a very real sense, he gave his life.

He was so intensely American that he had no patience with men who lived under the flag and were not loyal to the spirit of the country it typifies. In his heart ran steadily the clarion call, “America,

lead on." "Patriotism," he declared in the *Atlantic Monthly* for August, 1904, "love of country and pride in the flag which symbolizes country are feelings which at present are very real and strong, and the man who lacks them is a useless creature, a mere encumbrance to the land."

"You can't govern yourselves by sitting in your studies and thinking how good you are. You've got to fight all you know how, and you'll find a lot of able men willing to fight you. . . .

"A man must go into practical politics in order to make his influence felt. Practical politics must not be construed to mean dirty politics. On the contrary, in the long run the politics of fraud and treachery and foulness is impractical politics, and the most practical of all politicians is the politician who is clean and decent and straight."

In his writings and in his numerous public addresses Theodore Roosevelt always proclaimed a sound morality and a lofty ideal of American citizenship. He was always more concerned with his message than with his language. He spoke and wrote in terms of such clarity that everyone could understand his meaning. The following quotations demonstrate his sturdy stand for the "square deal" and his unflinching love for his native land:

"The first requisite of a good citizen in this republic of ours is that he shall be able and willing to pull his own weight; that he shall not be a mere passenger, but shall do his share in the work that each generation of us finds ready to hand; and, furthermore, that in doing his work he shall show, not only the capacity for sturdy self-help, but also self-respecting regard for the rights of others."

“Every great nation owes to the men whose lives have formed part of its greatness not merely the material effect of what they did, not merely the laws they placed upon the statute books or the victories they won over armed foes, but also the immense but indefinable moral influence produced by their words and deeds upon the national character. It would be difficult to exaggerate the material effects of the careers of Washington and of Lincoln upon the United States. Without Washington we should probably never have won our independence of the British crown, and we should almost certainly have failed to become a great nation, remaining instead a cluster of jangling little communities, drifting toward the type of government prevalent in Spanish America. Without Lincoln we might perhaps have failed to keep the political unity we had won; and even if, as is possible, we had kept it, both the struggle by which it was kept and the results of this struggle would have been so different that the effect upon our national history could not have failed to be profound. Yet the nation’s debt to these men is not confined to what it owes them for its material well-being, incalculable though this debt is. Beyond the fact that we are an independent and united people, with half a continent as our heritage, lies the fact that every American is richer by the heritage of the noble deeds and noble words of Washington and of Lincoln. Each of us who reads the Gettysburg speech or the second inaugural address of the greatest American of the nineteenth century, or who studies the long campaigns and lofty statesmanship of that other American who was even greater, cannot but feel within him that lift toward things higher

and nobler which can never be bestowed by the enjoyment of mere material prosperity.”

“No man works such incalculable woe to a free country as he who teaches young men that one of the paths to glory, renown, and temporal success lies along the line of armed resistance to the government, or its attempted overthrow.”

“Our nation is that one among all the nations of the earth which holds in its hands the fate of the coming years. We enjoy exceptional advantages and are menaced by exceptional dangers; and all signs indicate that we shall either fail greatly or succeed greatly. I firmly believe that we shall succeed; but we must not foolishly blink at the dangers by which we are threatened, for that is the way to fail. On the contrary, we must soberly set to work to find out all we can about the existence and extent of every evil, must acknowledge it to be such, and must then attack it with unyielding resolution. There are many such evils, and each must be fought after a separate fashion; yet there is one quality which we must bring to the solution of every problem,—that is, an intense and fervid Americanism. We shall never be successful over the dangers that confront us; we shall never achieve true greatness, nor reach the lofty ideal which the founders and preservers of our mighty Federal Republic have set before us, unless we are Americans in heart and soul, in spirit and purpose, keenly alive to the responsibility implied in the very name of American, and proud beyond measure of the glorious privilege of bearing it.”

“It is an immense benefit to the European immigrant to change him into an American citizen. To bear the name of American is to bear the most hon-

ored of titles; and whoever does not so believe has no business to bear the name at all, and, if he comes from Europe, the sooner he goes back there the better."

"The immigrant of to-day can learn much from the experience of the immigrants of the past, who came to America prior to the Revolutionary War. We were then already, what we are now, a people of mixed blood. Many of our most illustrious Revolutionary names were borne by men of Huguenot blood—Jay, Sevier, Marion, Laurens. But the Huguenots were, on the whole, the best immigrants we have ever received;



© Underwood & Underwood

President Roosevelt and His Family

In the group from left to right, are: Kermit, Archibald, President Roosevelt, Ethel, Mrs. Roosevelt, Quentin, and Theodore, Jr.

sooner than any other, and more completely, they became American in speech, conviction, and thought. The Hollanders took longer than the Huguenots to become completely assimilated; nevertheless they in the end became so, immensely to their own advantage. One of the leading Revolutionary generals, Schuyler, and one of the Presidents of the United States, Van Buren, were of Dutch blood; but they rose to their positions, the highest in the land, because they had become Americans and had ceased being Hollanders. If they had remained members of an alien body, cut off by their speech and customs and belief from the rest of the American community, Schuyler would have lived his life as a boorish, provincial squire, and Van Buren would have ended his days a small tavern-keeper. So it is with the Germans of Pennsylvania. Those of them who became Americanized have furnished to our history a multitude of honorable names, from the days of the Muhlenbergs onward; but those who did not become Americanized form to the present day an unimportant body, of no significance in American existence. So it is with the Irish, who gave to Revolutionary annals such names as Carroll and Sullivan, and to the Civil War men like Sheridan—men who were Americans and nothing else: while the Irish who remain such, and busy themselves solely with alien politics, can have only an unhealthy influence upon American life, and can never rise as do their compatriots who become straight-out Americans. Thus it has ever been with all people who have come hither, of whatever stock or blood.”

“We cannot sit huddled within our own borders and avow ourselves merely an assemblage of well-to-do hucksters who care nothing for what happens beyond. Such a policy would defeat even its own ends; for as

the nations grow to have ever wider and wider interests and are brought into closer and closer contact, if we are to hold our own in the struggle for naval and commercial supremacy, we must build up our power within our own borders. We have but little room among our people for the timid, the irresolute and the idle; and it is no less true that there is scant room in the world at large for the nation with mighty thews that dares not to be great."

In his article in *The Forum* for July, 1894, in which he discusses the general law that great efficiency in public life is possible only to those of highest morality, Roosevelt concludes as follows: "The men who wish to work for decent politics must work practically, and yet must not swerve from their devotion to a higher ideal. They must actually do things, and not merely confine themselves to criticizing those who do them. They must work disinterestedly, and appeal to the disinterested element in others, although they must also do work which will result in the material betterment of the community. They must act as Americans through and through, in spirit and hope and purpose, and while being disinterested, unselfish and generous in their dealings with others, they must also show that they possess the essential manly virtues of energy, of resolution and of indomitable personal courage." This is only another way of saying that to be useful one must be good; to be very useful one must be very good, for morality is the basis of service.

His famous phrase "The strenuous life," was first used in his speech to the Hamilton Club of Chicago in 1899. He said, "I wish to preach, not the doctrine of ignoble ease, but the doctrine of the strenuous life, the life of toil and effort, of labor and strife; to preach that highest form of success which comes, not to the

man who desires mere easy peace, but to the man who does not shrink from danger, from hardships, or from bitter toil, and who out of these wins the splendid ultimate triumph."

In these days of doubt, of lawlessness, of manifest determination of some, indeed, of many, to evade the law and to defy the will of the majority by acts of lawlessness and by teaching such evil to others, it is well to ponder what Theodore Roosevelt said in his Message to Congress, January, 1904: "Every man must be guaranteed his liberty and his right to do as he likes with his property or his labor, so long as he does not infringe the rights of others. No man is above the law and no man is below it; nor do we ask any man's permission when we require him to obey it. Obedience to the law is demanded as a right, not asked as a favor."

At Philadelphia, in June, 1900, in seconding the nomination of William McKinley, Theodore Roosevelt, speaking prophetically, said, "We stand on the threshold of a new century, a century big with the fate of the great nations of the earth. It rests with us to decide whether in the opening years of that century we shall march forward to great triumphs, or whether at the outset we shall deliberately cripple ourselves for the contest. Is America a weakling to shrink from the world-work to be done by the world powers? No! The young Giant of the West stands on a continent and clasps the crest of an ocean in either hand. Our nation, glorious in youth and strength, looks into the future with fearless and eager eyes, and rejoices as a strong man to run a race. We do not stand in craven mood, asking to be spared the task, cringing as we gaze on the contest. No! We challenge the proud privilege of doing the

work that Providence allots us, and we face the coming years high of heart and resolute of faith that to our people is given the right to win such honor and renown as has never yet been granted to the peoples of mankind.”

SIDELIGHTS ON ROOSEVELT

A SISTER'S MEMORIES

Roosevelt's sister, Corinne Roosevelt Robinson, speaking before the Department of Superintendence of the National Education Association, opened her heart in appreciation of her brother's love for books and pictured his early years when, as a mere boy, he was a diligent reader. This habit of reading, so early acquired, he maintained throughout his life. His was a well-informed mind, and he turned the wide knowledge thus gained to good account in his public service. Mrs. Robinson said:

“My earliest memories of my brother, Theodore Roosevelt, are in the nursery at 28 East 20th Street, in the house which the patriotic women of America hope to rebuild and refurnish with all that is left of the old furniture, and thus visualize to his fellow countrymen the simple environment in which Theodore Roosevelt grew to early boyhood. In that nursery, the little sufferer, for he was a fragile and delicate boy almost always in the throes of severe asthma, in spite of his suffering was from the very beginning an inspiration to his younger brother and sister along literary lines. As a tiny boy of six, before I can remember him, my mother described him as never failing to have under his right arm Wood's *Natural History*, and under his left Stanley's *Life of Livingstone in the Jungles of Africa*. The delicate child, from the moment that he could read the printed page, was able to concentrate

himself with that extraordinary power which became later such a factor in his assimilation of knowledge on the marvelous interests of nature and the exciting adventures of the great explorer. The child indeed in Theodore Roosevelt's case was father to the man, for to the last days of his varied and busy life, his interest in bird lore and in adventurous explorations was as keen as when the fair curly head used to be bent in absolute intensity of concentration over the pages of the *Natural History*, or African adventures.

"In those days before I can remember, the story ran that he became absorbed in reading about the wonderful habits and methods of the ants. Turning the page of his huge volume, at the head of the following page the narrative continued, 'The foregoing ant also has such unusual characteristics.' The young naturalist, not realizing that the word 'foregoing' referred to the ants of whose habits he had already read, decided that the adjective in question was applied to a new species, and after ardent investigation of the habits of this supposedly new species of ant, he decided to write an article (remember this was at the age of six) entitled 'The Foregoing Ant,' and having accomplished this feat in a large, painstaking, babyish hand, he then called the members of the household together to listen to his essay on this hitherto unknown representative of the ant family. One can well imagine the amused attitude of the 'grown people' of 28 East 20th Street when they listened to the earnest little author delivering his astute analysis of the ways of life of his new-found protege. Those comprehending 'grown-up people' of that old house, however, knew better than to ridicule the budding genius of the small member of the household, and it was not until many years after-

wards that the boy, Theodore, discovered how much amused his parents had been at his first scientific and literary effort.

“In that same nursery, the little boy of eight wove many stories of bird and beast such as Kipling himself hardly surpassed in his *Jungle Stories*, and there was always a boy in Theodore’s stories, a boy very much



Photo by Ritch from Underwood and Underwood

Roosevelt, the Lover of Children

In the library at Sagamore Hill, his Oyster Bay home, with three of his grandchildren

like Mowgli of the Kipling tales, a boy who understood with rare sympathy the habits and the language of his feathered and furry friends, and whose name in the particular case of which I write, I am sure in the boy's own mind, was Theodore Roosevelt.

“These first literary inclinations grew apace with my brother and always he was seen with large volumes under his arms. In the midst of family excitements, in the midst of rollicking gaiety, he could absent himself in spirit so completely that I have seen him stand for hours on one foot, with a huge encyclopedia resting upon the knee, in entire oblivion of time, space, and environment. By the time he was thirteen years old, he was extraordinarily well informed, both from a historical and scientific standpoint, and the winter which we spent upon the Nile was one of constant study, by the young naturalist, of the new species in that part of the world, so rich in endless varieties of birds. He had learned both perseverance and concentration, and they were always to remain factors in the success of his achievements.

“He writes from Dresden where my father had placed us to study German during the summer of 1873, following our winter on the Nile, ‘I am asking Fraulein Anna to give us harder lessons, for I do not think we are learning enough.’ How rare a request on the part of a boy of fourteen, but the thirst for knowledge in the heart and mind of Theodore Roosevelt could never be slaked; German philosophy, German fiction, German scientific literature were devoured that summer with equal avidity, and it was during that same period that he launched into embryonic fiction himself, in a quaint little tale called ‘Mrs. Mouse’s Dinner Party,’ which was written for the great ‘Dresden Literary American Club,’ formed by

five little American children in Dresden during those summer days of 1873.

“Perhaps the most extraordinary thing connected with my brother’s literary attainments was the diversity of his interests. He was a very remarkable historian, not only having an accurate and all-embracing knowledge of American history, but of every other history, of nearly every nation. During his much-heralded trip abroad in 1910, the inhabitants of the various countries which he visited were simply astonished at his knowledge of their great men and great historical events. In Hungary he surpassed in accurate intimacy of Magyar lore even the most famous of Hungary’s own scholars. In Egypt, his acquaintance with the travels of Egyptians, at the same period as the time of Marco Polo, was equally astonishing; wherever he went, his information, political, historical, and literary, of the country which he was visiting, proved a matter of perpetual wonder on the part of his hosts. One reason for his unlimited information was that he never wasted a moment of time. He always knew the book he wanted to read, he always had that book where he could find it at a moment’s notice, and he also had the power of such unusual concentration that although hundreds of people might be talking about him, he could detach himself and become lost to the contemporary world in a moment of time.

“He was a great lover of poetry, especially all poems which had in them the lilt and swing of sonorous rhythm. He loved Swinburne and Kipling, and was an ardent admirer of Longfellow’s ballads, especially the ‘Saga of King Olaf.’ He always felt that Longfellow was not sufficiently admired in his own country, and once laughingly announced that he meant to

travel the breadth of our great country to inspire a deeper love of Longfellow in the hearts of Americans.

“Mr. John Burroughs, the well-known naturalist, always felt that my brother was his peer in the special literature connected with his specialties, and in the same way, Mr. Henry Fairfield Osborn, President of the Museum of Natural History, was perpetually more and more surprised by his knowledge of mammals.

“Every now and then he would get enormous satisfaction from a detective story, or from some simple story of human life which happened to touch his tenderness of heart or his rectitude of purpose.

“Book lover he was indeed, in the truest and deepest sense of the word, and he not only loved books for their own value, for the value which they gave in interpreting world issues and world evolution, but he had the power of so assimilating the information which he gathered from a book, that, in turn, he was able to give to others again that information, touched by the spirit of his own wonderful personality.”

The brother of whom Mrs. Robinson speaks so appreciatively was not only a tireless reader, a well-informed man on many subjects, he was a voluminous and versatile writer. Besides his speeches and magazine articles, his formal volumes, covering important fields of history, biography, political and social economy, science, and adventure, are among the most widely read books of this generation. Among them are: *The Naval Operations of the War Between Great Britain and the United States—1812-1815* (1882); *Hunting Trips of a Ranchman* (1885); *Life of Thomas Hart Benton* (1886); *Life of Gouverneur Morris* (1887); *Ranch Life and the Hunting Trail* (1888); *The Winning of the West* (1889-1896); *The Rough*

Riders (1899); *Life of Oliver Cromwell* (1900); *Hunting the Grizzly* (1903); *Outdoor Pastimes of an American Hunter* (1906); *African Game Trails* (1910); *Autobiography* (1913); *Life Histories of African Game Animals* (1914); *Through the Brazilian Wilderness* (1914); *A Booklover's Holidays in the Open* (1916). In addition may be mentioned the following collected essays, lectures, and speeches: *American Ideals* (1897); *True Americanism* (1910); *African and European Addresses* (1910); *Realizable Ideals* (1912); *History as Literature* (1913); *National Strength and International Duty* (1917).

Since Roosevelt's death have appeared: *Theodore Roosevelt's Letters to His Children*; *Theodore Roosevelt and His Time Shown in His Own Letters*; and many collected essays and speeches. The number of books about Roosevelt is amazing. One could fill a library with them. Among the best biographies that have appeared are those by Corinne Roosevelt Robinson, Jacob Riis, William Roscoe Thayer, James Morgan, C. G. Washburn, and Hermann Hagedorn.

GLIMPSES OF ROOSEVELT'S HOME LIFE

Theodore Roosevelt's home life was ideal. He had six children, Alice, Theodore, Kermit, Ethel, Archibald, and Quentin. Of them he was passionately fond, and to their education and training, as well as their amusement, he gave much time. The home at Oyster Bay was unusually attractive—not pretentious, but comfortable. Children of the neighborhood came and went at will, and those in the Roosevelt family had abundant freedom to grow up happily and sanely. Even at the White House there was freedom, and the official atmosphere of the fine old mansion was not allowed to overawe the youngsters.

Although because of his poor health as a child Roosevelt was unable to attend a public school, he always believed in the public schools and gave to public education his hearty, forceful support. Three of his children attended the Cove Neck school, near Oyster Bay, until they were "graduated." It was a plain country school, the sort that has made so many of our best men and women. This little school he loved and to it he gladly sent his children. With the teacher of this roadside country school Roosevelt arranged a great Christmas program. At his expense a tree was set up and every pupil had a present from Santa Claus. For twenty-two years Roosevelt personally attended these exercises and gave the presents from Saint Nick to the happy children. In 1918, when he was in the hospital, he sent his son Archie to act for him. He believed so fully in the public school and in the fundamental good in children that he once wrote, "Of course what we have a right to expect of the American boy is that he shall turn out to be a good American man. Now, the chances are that he won't be much of a man unless he is a good deal of a boy. He must not be a coward or a weakling, a bully, a shirk, or a prig. He must be clean-minded and clean-lived, and able to hold his own under all circumstances and against all comers. It is only on these conditions that he will grow into the kind of man of whom America can really be proud."

Roosevelt always found time to companion his boys, and to his fatherly care and concern they owe much. To them he looked for large usefulness to the country, and from them he enjoyed fullest respect and loving loyalty. He never forgot the happy family life of his own childhood. His sister Anna was older than

the others and seemed to belong with the adults, but "Teedie," with his sister "Conie" (Corinne, later Mrs. Robinson), and his brother Elliott (who died in early manhood), were made happy by the devotion of a great-hearted father, a tender mother, and a charming aunt who lived with the Roosevelts and was loved by all the children, including numerous young cousins who made the house their headquarters.

No doubt the remembrance of his own boyhood strongly influenced Theodore Roosevelt's attitude toward his own family when he became a man. His public duties often called him away from home, but he was never too far away or too busy to keep in touch not only with his wife and sisters, but with all his children. To them he sent letters of loving concern, in which he always treated the children as his intellectual equals. He never "wrote down" to them, for he knew what they were interested in and he was genuinely interested in the same subjects. With his deep love for friends, for fellow men, for all living things—birds, animals, trees, flowers—always was a deeper, more tender love for home and family. For the children he always provided an old-fashioned Christmas. "I wonder," he writes, "whether there ever can come in life a thrill of greater exultation and rapture than that which comes to one between the ages of say six and fourteen, when the library door is thrown open and you walk in to see all the gifts, like a materialized fairyland, arrayed on your special table."

In fact, the letters were written to keep alive in his children's hearts that fine spirit of comradeship which he gave so gladly when he was with them in the home at Sagamore Hill or in the White House. Their games

were his games. Their pleasures were his pleasures. With them he romped in the old barn at Sagamore Hill, played "tickley" at bedtime, and joined in the pillow fights. Of these memories he writes, concerning an urgent demand that he join in a romp in the old barn, "I had not the heart to refuse, but really it seems, to put it mildly, rather odd for a stout, elderly President to be bouncing over hayricks, in a wild effort to get to goal before an active midget of a competitor, aged nine years. However, it was really great fun."

In 1905 he wrote his daughter Ethel a letter that shows how his heart was touched by the fact that his boys had grown to the age when they no longer needed him as a playmate. There was a party of boys, guests of Quentin, playing in the White House. "They played hard, and it made me realize how old I had grown and how very busy I had been the last few years to find that they had grown so that I was not needed in the play. Do you recollect how we all of us used to play hide-and-go-seek in the White House, and have obstacle races down the hall when you brought in your friends?"

When he was arranging for the publication of these letters to his own children he declared, "I would rather have this book published than anything that has ever been written about me."

The letters are chummy, intensely human, delightfully humorous and teeming with just such information as a boy or a girl would naturally enjoy. They are both informing and entertaining. It is a tribute, unique and honorable, that Theodore Roosevelt, the foremost man of his day, would turn from the great problems of his country to give thought to the loved ones in his home.

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS



0 012 355 825 A

This is
One of Two Hundred Volumes
of the
Instructor Literature Series
Library Edition

SEND FOR FULL CATALOGUE

Hol
pH
Mill Ru

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS



0 012 355 825 A